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Mother Can Visit Peking Prisoner

By the Associated Press

China has granted permission for John Downey, serving a life sentence on spy charges, to be visited by his mother, Mrs. Mary Downey, and his brother, William, the American Red Cross said yesterday.

The Downeys last visited their son and brother, who has spent 12 years in a Red Chinese jail, in May 1962. It was Mrs. Downey's fourth trip to China to see him.

Mr. Downey, an Army civilian employe, disappeared during the Korean War on what the Army said was a routine flight from Seoul, the Korean capital, to Japan.

Peking charged Mr. Downey, of New Britain, Conn., and Richard Fecteau, of Lynn, Mass., were shot down November 29, 1952, while flying over Manchuria to drop supplies to anti-Communist agents. Mr. Fecteau was sentenced to 20 years.

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